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GRACE

Construction Products Division

W.R. Grace & Co.  
62 Whittemore Avenue  
Cambridge, Mass. 02140

(617) 876-1400

September 8, 1983

Mr. John O'Lear  
236 Grand Street  
Waterbury, CT 06702

RE: North End Middle School  
West Side Middle School

Dear Mr. O'Lear:

This is in response to your questions concerning the asbestos content of Monokote® Fireproofing used on the referenced projects.

Monokote (Type MK-5) is a cementitious fireproofing product, manufactured by the Construction Products Division of W. R. Grace & Co., without the addition of any commercial asbestos.

Monokote does contain vermiculite, a naturally occurring mineral, mined from deposits which may have asbestiform tremolite containing rock. Except for trace amounts, the tremolite is removed in the processing of vermiculite. It is this processed vermiculite which is used in Monokote.

Since the introduction of Monokote Type MK-5 to the marketplace in 1973, we have had the product tested for asbestos content a number of times by independent testing laboratories. Attached are copies of the four most recent analyses: two completed by the Environmental Science Laboratories of Mt. Sinai Hospital and two by Arthur D. Little, Inc. in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Based on all of these tests, we believe that Monokote is asbestos free.

I have also enclosed information on Federal Government regulations pertinent to the spraying of products with asbestos. Monokote, as evidenced by the enclosed analyses is virtually free of asbestiform mineral fibers. Based on these results there is no question that Monokote is in compliance with Federal EPA Regulations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning the enclosed information.

Regards,

*Robert A. Merther*

Robert A. Merther  
Manager - Fire Protection Products

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